

The Presidents

President	Dates	Years in Office	Party	Elected From
1 George Washington	1732-1799	1789-1797	None	Virginia
2 John Adams	1735-1826	1797-1801	Federalist	Massachusetts
3 Thomas Jefferson	1743-1826	1801-1809	Democratic-Republican	Virginia
4 James Madison	1751-1836	1809-1817	Democratic-Republican	Virginia
5 James Monroe	1758-1831	1817-1825	Democratic-Republican	Virginia
6 John Quincy Adams	1767-1848	1825-1829	National-Republican	Massachusetts
✓ 7 Andrew Jackson	1767-1845	1829-1837	Democratic	Tennessee
✓ 8 Martin Van Buren	1782-1862	1837-1841	Democratic	New York
✓ 9 William H. Harrison	1773-1841	1841	Whig	Ohio
10 John Tyler	1790-1862	1841-1845	Whig	Virginia
✓ 11 James K. Polk	1795-1849	1845-1849	Democratic	Tennessee
12 Zachary Taylor	1784-1850	1849-1850	Whig	Louisiana
✓ 13 Millard Fillmore	1800-1874	1850-1853	Whig	New York
✓ 14 Franklin Pierce	1804-1869	1853-1857	Democratic	New Hampshire
15 James Buchanan	1791-1868	1857-1861	Democratic	Pennsylvania
✓ 16 Abraham Lincoln	1809-1865	1861-1865	Republican	Illinois
✓ 17 Andrew Johnson	1808-1875	1865-1869	Republican	Tennessee
✓ 18 Ulysses S. Grant	1822-1885	1869-1877	Republican	Illinois
19 Rutherford B. Hayes	1822-1893	1877-1881	Republican	Ohio
20 James A. Garfield	1831-1881	1881	Republican	Ohio
21 • Chester A. Arthur	1830-1886	1881-1885	Republican	New York
22 Grover Cleveland	1837-1908	1885-1889	Democratic	New York
23 Benjamin Harrison	1833-1901	1889-1893	Republican	Indiana
24 Grover Cleveland	1837-1908	1893-1897	Democratic	New York
25 William McKinley	1843-1901	1897-1901	Republican	Ohio
26 Theodore Roosevelt	1858-1919	1901-1909	Republican	New York
27 William H. Taft	1857-1930	1909-1913	Republican	Ohio
28 Woodrow Wilson	1856-1924	1913-1921	Democratic	New Jersey
29 Warren G. Harding	1865-1923	1921-1923	Republican	Ohio
30 Calvin Coolidge	1872-1933	1923-1929	Republican	Massachusetts
31 Herbert Hoover	1874-1964	1929-1933	Republican	California
32 Franklin D. Roosevelt	1882-1945	1933-1945	Democratic	New York
33 Harry S. Truman	1884-1972	1945-1953	Democratic	Missouri
34 Dwight D. Eisenhower	1890-1969	1953-1961	Republican	New York
35 John F. Kennedy	1917-1963	1961-1963	Democratic	Massachusetts
36 Lyndon B. Johnson	1908-1973	1963-1969	Democratic	Texas
37 Richard M. Nixon	1913-	1969-1974	Republican	New York
38 Gerald R. Ford	1913-	1974-1977	Republican	Michigan
39 Jimmy Carter	1924-	1977-1981	Democratic	Georgia
40 Ronald Reagan	1911-	1981-	Republican	California



PRESIDENTS *of the* UNITED STATES

PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES. Every four years, on a day late in January, a solemn ceremony takes place at the Capitol in Washington, D.C. A new or re-elected President of the United States is being inaugurated. With the left hand on an open Bible and the right hand upraised, the President takes the oath of office from the Chief Justice of the United States.

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PRESIDENTIAL OATH OF OFFICE

I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully execute the office of President of the United States, and will to the best of my ability, preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States.

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Witnessing the ceremony on the Capitol grounds are hundreds of dignitaries and as many as 100,000 spectators. Millions of other Americans across the nation listen to the ceremony on radio and watch it on television. The United States Marine Band plays. Leaders of the principal religious faiths offer prayers.

The President delivers an inaugural address, which may set the theme of the new administration. The Voice of America broadcasts the speech throughout the world in nearly 50 languages and dialects.

The presidential office is unique because it blends



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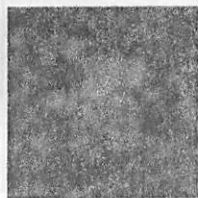


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Our Presidents



ULYSSES S. GRANT 1869-1877

Republican from Illinois. Grant had retired from the army after serving in the Mexican War but returned to serve as an officer in the Civil War. He eventually became general of all the Union forces. Though well-meaning himself, Grant's administration was marred by scandals involving dishonest government officials. Later, he failed in business but spent his last months writing his life story to pay his debts.



RUTHERFORD B. HAYES 1877-1881

Republican from Ohio. Hayes was an officer in the Union army when elected to Congress. In Congress, and later as governor of Ohio, he earned a reputation for complete honesty. As President, Hayes encouraged civil service reform and tried to restore friendship between the North and the South by withdrawing the last federal troops from southern states. Hayes had the first telephone installed in the White House.



JAMES A. GARFIELD 1881

Republican from Ohio. In his youth, Garfield had worked as a canal boy to support his widowed mother and to put himself through college. He later served as president of Hiram College in Ohio, as the youngest brigadier general in the Union army, and in Congress. In 1880 he was nominated as a compromise candidate for President. Four months after his inauguration he was shot by a disappointed office-seeker.



CHESTER A. ARTHUR 1881-1885

Republican from New York. A tall, courtly gentleman, he dressed so stylishly that he was called "Elegant Arthur." His association with political bosses won him the nomination for Vice-President. After Garfield's death, however, Arthur proved to be an honest, efficient President who put duty to his country first. His endorsement of civil service reform cost him the support of the bosses and chances of renomination.



GROVER CLEVELAND 1885-1889 1893-1897

Democrat from New York. A stout, stubbornly honest man, Cleveland had taught school, studied law, and been a sheriff, a mayor, and governor of New York. As President, he tried to lower the tariff. Though Cleveland won the popular vote in the election of 1888, he lost the electoral vote. In 1892, however, he won easily and returned to the presidency. His second term was plagued by a severe economic depression.



Our Presidents



BENJAMIN HARRISON 1889-1893

Republican from Indiana. Benjamin Harrison was the only President whose grandfather — William Henry Harrison — had also been President. A cautious man, Harrison tried to maintain a "middle-of-the-road" policy to please various groups. A program to build a two-ocean navy was begun during his term. The Harrisons were the first family to have electric lights in the White House.



WILLIAM McKINLEY 1897-1901

Republican from Ohio. McKinley had been a soldier, lawyer, congressman, and governor of Ohio. His presidency was marked by booming business and by the growing activity of the United States in world affairs, including the short war with Spain, which brought overseas territories under American control. McKinley was assassinated six months after his second term in office began.



THEODORE ROOSEVELT 1901-1909

Republican from New York. Big-game hunter and author of over thirty books, "Teddy" (or "TR") became President at McKinley's death. He started the air force in 1909 by purchasing a plane from the Wright brothers. For helping to end the Russo-Japanese War, he became the first President to receive the Nobel Peace Prize. He was also the first President to ride in an automobile.



WILLIAM HOWARD TAFT 1909-1913

Republican from Ohio. Taft was over six feet tall and weighed at one time more than 300 pounds. A judge for nearly twenty years and the first governor of the Philippine Islands, this friendly man was Secretary of War under Theodore Roosevelt but later became his rival for the presidency. Taft was named Chief Justice of the United States in 1921, the only President who has held that position.



WOODROW WILSON 1913-1921

Democrat from New Jersey. President of Princeton University, Wilson had been a college professor and historian but had never held political office until elected governor of New Jersey. Within two years he was elected President. A strong executive, he led Congress in lowering tariffs and passing the Federal Reserve Act. At the end of World War I Wilson's peace proposals made him the second President to win the Nobel Peace Prize.



Our Presidents



WARREN G. HARDING 1921-1923

Republican from Ohio. A handsome, successful businessman, newspaper owner, and senator, Harding's platform called for a "return to normalcy" — that is, a return to peaceful times and the enjoyment of life. His election as President was the first to be broadcast over the radio. The Washington Disarmament Conference was held during his administration. Harding died two years after taking office.



CALVIN COOLIDGE 1923-1929

Republican from Massachusetts. As Governor of Massachusetts, Coolidge became famous for his handling of a Boston police strike in 1919. Elected Vice-President in 1920, he became President at Harding's death. He was a quiet man of few words who believed in working hard, spending little, and limiting the powers of the federal government. During his administration, the country enjoyed a period of prosperity.



HERBERT HOOVER 1929-1933

Republican from California. A successful mining engineer, Hoover was also known as a great humanitarian for his organization of food relief projects in Europe after World War I. He later served as Secretary of Commerce. Because he was President at the time, Hoover was blamed for the depression that started in 1929. In later years, he gave valuable service in reorganizing the executive branch of government.



FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT 1933-1945

Democrat from New York. Roosevelt had served as a New York state senator, Assistant Secretary of the Navy, and Governor of New York. The only President to serve more than two terms, "FDR" led the country through its worst depression and greatest war. In office he introduced the "New Deal" program and made wide use of radio and news conferences. He was the first President to travel by plane while in office. Roosevelt died in 1945, at the beginning of his fourth term.

relief in Belgium. Later, he had served as Secretary of Commerce under Presidents Harding and Coolidge.

Hoover won the election on a pledge to continue the prosperity which the country had enjoyed under the preceding Republican Presidents. Popular

with business leaders, he believed firmly in leaving people and business free from government controls. But Hoover was no mere follower of Coolidge and Harding; he had ideas of his own. During his administration Hoover Dam was begun on the Colorado River, to provide



Our Presidents



HARRY S. TRUMAN 1945-1953

Democrat from Missouri. Captain of artillery in World War I, Truman rose through local politics to become a United States senator. As Vice-President he became President at Roosevelt's death and continued the New Deal approach in his Fair Deal program. During his administration, World War II ended, the United States adopted plans for aiding the recovery of Europe, and American troops fought in the Korean War.



DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER 1953-1961

Republican. Born in Texas and raised in Kansas, Eisenhower was a soldier for most of his life. During World War II General Eisenhower commanded the Allied forces in the invasion of Europe. Later, he served as Chief of Staff of the Army, as president of Columbia University, and as NATO commander in Europe. A highly popular leader, Eisenhower was Chief Executive during a time of general prosperity.

much of their time making plans to win the war. But they also gave thought to the problems of peace after victory.

The United Nations gets under way. World leaders agreed on one thing. A new start should be made on forming an organization of nations, in which all countries would work together for world peace. In April, 1945, representatives of 46 nations gathered at San Francisco to complete plans for such an organization. In two months they wrote a charter for the United Nations (called the UN).

How is the United Nations organized? The charter set up several groups or bodies to carry out the purposes of the United Nations. Chief among these bodies are the General Assembly, the Security Council, and the Secretariat.

Every member nation has a seat in the General Assembly and each of these countries, large or small, has one vote.

The Assembly may discuss any subject which comes under the charter.

The goal of the Security Council is to keep the world at peace. Five countries — the United States, Great Britain, the Soviet Union, China, and France — are permanent members of the Council. Ten other members are elected by the Assembly to serve two-year terms. The Security Council has the right to use troops against an aggressor country. Before any such action can be taken, however, all five permanent members must agree to it. Thus, any of these nations can veto decisions of the Council.

The Secretariat carries out the day-to-day work of the UN. Its employees handle correspondence, gather information, and publish reports. The head of the Secretariat, called the secretary-general, is elected by the General Assembly. The headquarters of the United Nations is a group of buildings



Our Presidents



JOHN F. KENNEDY 1961-1963

Democrat from Massachusetts. A Navy PT boat commander during World War II, Kennedy began his political career as a representative and became a senator in 1953. As President, he proposed New Frontier legislation to solve national problems. In foreign affairs, Kennedy called for the removal of nuclear missiles from Cuba and secured a test-ban treaty with the Soviet Union. President Kennedy was assassinated in 1963.



LYNDON B. JOHNSON 1963-1969

Democrat from Texas. Johnson's 24 years in Congress, first as representative and later as senator, covered the administrations of three Presidents. Elected Vice-President in 1961, he was sworn in as President after the assassination of John Kennedy in 1963. After election as President in his own right in 1964, Johnson secured passage of important civil rights legislation, undertook a War on Poverty, and strengthened American military efforts in Vietnam.



RICHARD M. NIXON 1969-1974

Republican. Born in California, Nixon served that state as a representative and as a senator before being elected Vice-President in 1952 and again in 1956. Elected President in 1968, he withdrew American troops from Vietnam and promoted international cooperation. Nixon was re-elected in 1972, but his administration was shaken by the Watergate affair, and in 1974 he became the first President to resign from office.



GERALD R. FORD 1974-1977

Republican from Michigan. Born in Nebraska, Ford served in the Navy during World War II and then entered law practice in Michigan. He was elected to Congress from Michigan in 1948, and served as House Minority Leader from 1965 to 1973. Following the resignation of Spiro Agnew, he was appointed Vice-President in December, 1973. When Richard Nixon resigned in August, 1974, Ford became President.

ters of the Democratic National Committee, located in the Watergate office building in Washington. One of the men worked for President Nixon's re-election campaign.

During the investigations that followed, it became clear that close aides

and advisers of the President himself had planned and then tried to cover up the Watergate break-in. Evidence emerged that to hide their guilt these men had committed perjury (telling lies under oath) and had obstructed justice (interfered with the investigation of a

**JIMMY CARTER** 1977-1981

Democrat from Georgia. Governor of Georgia from 1971 to 1975, Jimmy Carter was a newcomer to national politics before his election as President in 1976. During his administration, Carter supported human rights and helped bring about a peace agreement between Israel and Egypt. Other challenges included seeking the release of American hostages in Iran and reducing inflation at home.

**RONALD REAGAN** 1981-

Republican from California. Born in Illinois, Ronald Reagan moved to California in the late 1930's and became a successful motion-picture and television actor. Reagan served as governor of California from 1967 to 1975 and gained nationwide attention for his support of conservative causes. Elected President in 1980, Reagan took steps to reduce government spending and strengthen the nation's economy. He appointed the first woman to the Supreme Court.

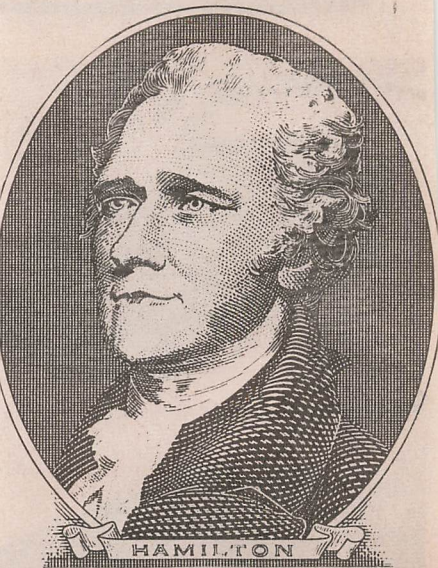
me). Cases of illegal wiretapping, destroying evidence, and seeking illegal campaign gifts also came to light. By the summer of 1974 over thirty persons, including four former Cabinet members, had been charged with serious offenses. Over a dozen of these people confessed and were convicted.

Richard Nixon resigns. Throughout the Watergate investigations, the President claimed that he had not been involved in any of the illegal activities. Others now challenged this claim. Under our system of government, when a president is accused of serious wrongdoing, Congress may bring impeachment proceedings against him. In early 1974, the Judiciary Committee of the House of Representatives began to decide whether President Nixon should be impeached.

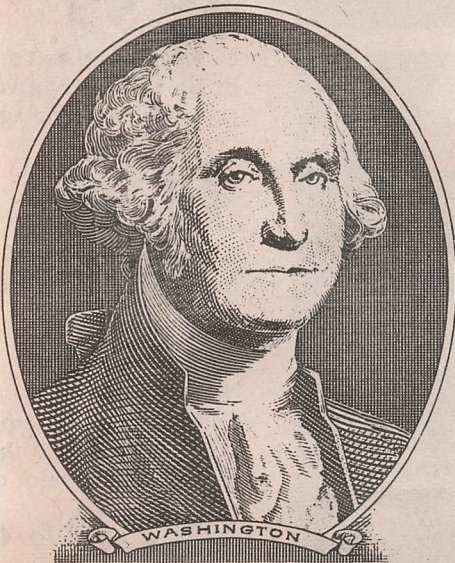
Much of the discussion in the Committee had to do with the President's tapes. Beginning in his first term, President Nixon had made tape recordings of conversations in his offices and on his telephones. He had done this to make a historical record of his administration. When the existence of the tapes became known, Congress tried to get recordings of certain conversations. After first claiming that no one but himself had a right to the tapes, the President yielded to public pressure and turned over many of them to Congress. He continued to hold back other tapes. A majority of the House Judiciary Committee felt that these tapes and other evidence, taken together, showed that the President had known about certain illegal activities. They recommended that he be impeached.

Gerald R. Ford was sworn in as President after Richard Nixon left office. Mrs. Betty Ford was named as Chief Justice Warren Burger administered the oath of office.











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